

How to Realize the Dream of Online Learning for Principals: Lessons Learned!

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Introduction

On April 1, 2019, International School Leadership initiated a pilot online learning program for a group of African school principals who volunteered. The program was a well-established online course "Leadership for School Improvement" that is part of a certificate program and has been delivered online to school leaders from over 45 countries during a seven-year period.

The intent of the pilot program is to comprehend the challenges and opportunities of online learning from a variety of perspectives: infrastructure, learning management system, requisite technical skills, course structure and delivery method, applicability of content, impact, instructor qualities, training needs assessment and collaboration across political and cultural boundaries.

The research will lead to establishment of standards for the effective delivery of online professional learning.

Outcomes for the Presentation

School leaders who attend the presentation will:

- develop a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities with online learning
- understand clear standards that can be applied in the evaluation various online learning opportunities
- appreciate how online learning supports global professional collaboration
- understand contextualization of content of the online course to different situations
- explore one internationally recognized learning management system and review the content of the pilot course, and
- reflect on and share their personal challenges with online learning, thereby adding further data and validating the findings of the pilot.